

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-49. (cancelled).

50. (currently amended) Hogger apparatus comprising:

- a drum inclined to the horizontal, being substantially open at its upper end to allow the feed of raw material therein, and

- including a rotating reducing means within and proximate the lower end of the drum, said reducing means bearing a plurality of features which interact and reduce the size of raw material with which it comes into contact, said reducing means being substantially a disc in shape;

the arrangement being further characterised in that at least a portion of the side wall of the drum exhibits a plurality of apertures acting as screening apertures to allow processed material of sufficiently reduced size to pass therethrough.

51. (cancelled).

52. (cancelled).

53. (currently amended) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim [[52]] 50 in which the rotational axis of the disc is angled, when the apparatus is viewed in top plan, at an angle to

the longitudinal axis of the drum, said angle being within the inclusive range of 5°-75°.

54. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 53 in which the angle of the disc's rotational axis relative to the drum's longitudinal axis, when viewed in plan, is within the inclusive range of 25°-45°.

55. (currently amended) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim [[52]] 54 in which the rotational axis of the disc is angled, when the apparatus is viewed from the front, at an angle to the longitudinal axis of the drum, said angle being within the inclusive range of 5°-75°.

56. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 55 in which the angle of the disc's rotational axis relative to the drum's longitudinal axis, when viewed from the front, is within the inclusive range of 25°-45°.

57. (currently amended) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim [[51]] 50 in which the drum is rotatable and in which the rotating reducing means ~~disc~~ rotates in a direction opposite the direction of rotation of the drum.

58. (currently amended) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim [[52]] 50 in which, when viewed from an end of the drum, the disc is offset with respect to the longitudinal axis of the drum.

59. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which the features on the reducing assembly for reducing the raw material are teeth.

60. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which the drum is substantially cylindrical

61. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which the screening apertures are present over substantially the entire outer surface of the drum, at least between the reducing means and the feed end of the drum.

62. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which the screening apertures are provided by replaceable screen sections attached to a framework of the drum.

63. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which differently sized screening apertures are provided on the drum.

64. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50, in which the drum is divided into at least two sections, with an inwardly directed flange extending from the inner wall of the drum defining the boundary between different adjacent sections.

65. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 64 in which a first of said two sections adjacent the feed end of the drum is a cleaning section, and the

other section, in which the reducing means is present, is a processing section for the reduction of introduced material; the inward flange acting as a barrier affecting the passage of small material from the first to the second processing section, said cleaning section pre-screening, through screening apertures, introduced raw material from the feed end to separate small material comprising stones, dirt, and foreign material from the raw material.

66. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 65 in which the cleaning section includes one or more agitating means.

67. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which there is external wiping or brushing means for assisting the clearing and unblocking of foreign material from the screening apertures.

68. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which there is provided, adjacent the internal face of the drum, at least one rotating agitator to increase turbulence of the bulk raw and processed material in its vicinity.

69. (currently amended) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 68 in which a rotating agitator is a rotating shaft with a one or more blades or paddles thereabout and is rotated in a direction such that ~~the screw blade~~ said rotating shaft with

blades or paddles will attempt to push bulk material towards the feed end of the drum.

70. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which there is also provided at least one motive means for rotating the drum and reducing means, said motive means comprising one or more hydraulic motors.

71. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 70 in which the pump for the hydraulic motor is powered by a combustion engine.

72. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 71 in which the exhaust from the combustion engine is vented into the interior of the drum to heat, and partially dry, introduced raw material.

73. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 72 in which the exhaust is introduced by a pipe with venting apertures therein, which extends along at least part of the length of the drum.

74. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which there is an associated feed mechanism for delivering raw material into the drum, said feed mechanism comprising a conveyer arrangement.

75. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 which includes clearing means for transporting screened material away from the apparatus.

76. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 75 in which the clearing means comprises conveying means able to deliver transported material into a hopper, trailer, or storage area.

77. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 which includes both conveying feed means for introducing raw material into the drum, and clearing means; the conveying feed means positioned to be substantially over lower clearing means.

78. (previously presented) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 50 in which the raw material is predominantly wood based.

79. (cancelled).

80. (cancelled).

81. (new) Hogger apparatus comprising:

- a drum inclined to the horizontal, being substantially open at its upper end to allow the feed of raw material therein, and

- including a rotating reducing means within and proximate the lower end of the drum, said reducing means bearing a plurality of features which interact and reduce the size of raw material with which it comes into contact;

the arrangement being further characterised in that at least a portion of the side wall of the drum exhibits a plurality

of apertures acting as screening apertures to allow processed material of sufficiently reduced size to pass therethrough;

at least one motive means for rotating the drum and reducing means, said motive means comprising one or more hydraulic motors,

in which the pump for the hydraulic motor is powered by a combustion engine, and

in which the exhaust from the combustion engine is vented into the interior of the drum to heat, and partially dry, introduced raw material.

82. (new) Hogger apparatus as claimed in claim 81 in which the exhaust is introduced by a pipe with venting apertures therein, which extends along at least part of the length of the drum.